

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 98-006-G - ORDER NO. 98-598  
AUGUST 6, 1998

IN RE: Annual Review of Purchased Gas	)	ORDER ADDRESSING
Adjustments (PGA) and Gas Purchasing	)	MOTION AND SETTING
Policies of South Carolina Electric & Gas	)	PREFILING DATES
Company.	)	

✓MR

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Motion of the Consumer Advocate for the State of South Carolina (the Consumer Advocate) for an Order establishing a specific prefiling schedule in this case for testimony and exhibits. The Consumer Advocate states that, given the scheduled hearing date of October 15, 1998 that the due date for prefiling of South Carolina Electric & Gas Company's (SCE&G's) testimony and exhibits be August 17, 1998. Staff and intervenor testimony and exhibits would then be due on October 1, 1998, under the Consumer Advocate's proposal, with any written rebuttal testimony and exhibits being prefiled before the hearing. The Consumer Advocate states in its Motion that under the current purchased gas adjustment (PGA) proceedings before the Commission, companies no longer file a proposal in the form of an application. Therefore, the first notice that intervenors or the Staff have regarding a company's proposals in a PGA proceeding is when its direct testimony is filed, normally four weeks prior to the hearing date. The Consumer Advocate further notes that PGA cases have become more complex and that

the regular time frames do not allow adequate discovery time prior to having to prefile testimony and exhibits.

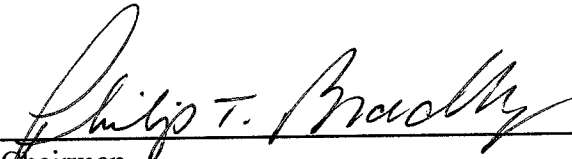
SCE&G responded to the Motion by stating that if Company testimony and exhibits must be prefiled by August 17, 1998, then all other direct testimony should be filed by September 15, 1998, with any rebuttal testimony due by October 1, 1998, so that adequate preparation time could be given to all parties in the case.

Whereas, the Commission understands the need for adequate preparation time for all parties, the Commission believes that a prefiling schedule of seven weeks prior to the hearing for the Company and two weeks prior to the hearing for Staff and Intervenors is an appropriate schedule that would meet this need. Therefore, we set the following prefiling schedule.

Pursuant to 26 S.C. Regs. 103-869(C)(Supp.1997), the Commission hereby orders that twenty-five copies of the testimony and exhibits of the Applicant shall be prefiled on or before **August 27, 1998**, and that twenty-five copies of the testimony and exhibits of the Commission Staff and/or intervenors shall be pre-filed on or before **October 1, 1998**. In addition, parties shall serve their pre-filed testimony and exhibits on all other parties of record as required by the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All parties are reminded that all witnesses must be present during any hearing in this matter at the call of the Chairman, or the Commission may decline to allow the witnesses' testimony to be read into the record of the proceeding, and/or may decline to allow the witnesses' exhibits to be entered into the evidence of the case.

Please take notice that any party requesting modification of this schedule must file a request for such modification with the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Acting Executive Director

(SEAL)